Lesson Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Lesson ID: 50753-03567

Title: COMSEC EQUIPMENT, STORAGE AND TRANSFER DURING OPERATION RESTORE HOPE

Operation/Exercise Name: RESTORE HOPE   Observed: 28 Apr 1993

Originator: MCCDC CALLP TM
POC: MCCDC WDID(C391) Commercial: (703)640-4914   DSN: 2784913

5. (U) OBSERVATION:
The large amount of COMSEC gear required for
RESTORE HOPE placed demands on Marine forces in Somalia.

6. (U) DISCUSSION:
Types of encryption equipment used:

-KY-57/58
-KY-65/75
-KG-84
-KG-81
-KG-94/194
-KG-40/41
-KY-68
-STU III (CENTCOM provided allied keys to support this
requirement)

Overall, units did well because of JTF insistence that
participating forces bring current key plus 3 months (ROB 3).
This gave the DCS and COMSEC support chain time to mature.

The Air Force and Army supported themselves through their parent
accounts and operated on forward hand receipts.

The Marines and Navy split their parent accounts and brought the
split accounts forward. The MNF were mostly self sufficient,
except for the Joint Naval and air space control nets previously
discussed.

Some consideration must be given to secure storage of large bulk
shipments of COMSEC material. The JCMO has yet to receive an
extremely large shipment due to the ROB 3 and the pullout of the
Marine forces; however, sustainment could have been a problem.

Over-the-Air-Transfer of COMSEC key by the Navy worked very well.

This is an excellent solution to solving distribution and connectivity problems. This approach should be practiced and perfected by all units.

Electronic key and electronic distribution is the way of the "paperless COMSEC Key" future. It is a quick solution to COMSEC management and distribution problems in Joint/Combined operations.

7. (U) LESSON LEARNED:
Provided for informational purposes.

8. (U) RECOMMENDED ACTION:
None

9. (U) COMMENTS:
None

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